Our Empire Army

PRESENTED BY THE
HOME AND COLONIAL STORES

ALWAYS USE PERFECT MARGARINE

OUR EMPIRE ARMY.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE is so vast that the sun never sets on it. Just when our boys and girls in England are going to morning school, it is bedtime for their Australian cousins; and when young John Bull is sitting down to tea the Canadians are having their mid-day meal. It is our fighting heroes on land and sea who have won the greater part of the Empire, in which live people of all colours, races, and religions.

The British Army is small in time of peace, but when the Mother Country is attacked all the Sons of the Empire come to her aid. They sail across the ocean to fight for the dear old Flag, for whose honour they will shed their blood to the last drop.

Our Home Army, which consists of the Regulars, the Reserves, and the Territorials, is divided into Cavalry or horse-soldiers, Artillery or gunners, and Infantry or foot-soldiers. Besides these there are the Royal Engineers, who make roads, bridges, fortresses, &c.; the Army Service Corps, which has to do with the food supplies and transport matters; the Army Ordnance Corps, that sees to the arms and ammunition; and the Army Medical Corps, that attends to the sick and wounded.

The Cavalry consists of regiments of Life Guards, Horse Guards, Dragoon Guards, Hussars, and Lancers. They are all armed with short rifles, but the favourite weapon is the sword. The chief work of all horse-soldiers is to ride ahead and find out the enemy; but they also join in a battle at the right moment. When the Infantry

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and Artillery have routed the enemy out of his defences with rifle and shell fire, the Cavalry dash through the flying foe and complete the work with sword and lance. Some British cavalry charges will never be forgotten ; the most famous was the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava, when 600 noble British soldiers bravely rode full speed at a whole army.

The Life Guards and Horse Guards are the soldiers who attend upon the King, and their full-dress uniforms are the most splendid in the Army. They wear metal helmets, with white plumes for the Life Guards and red plumes for the Horse Guards; and both of them wear glittering breastplates. The Dragoon Guards do not wear breastplates, but on their metal helmets are plumes, either red, white, or black, or a mixture of two of the colours. The Hussars can be recognised by their smartly-braided tunics. The Lancer, of course, carries a lance, but he can also be told by his "plastron," which is a breastplate, not of metal, but of cloth; and a very smart appearance it gives him.

The Artillerymen work the guns that fire shells at the enemy. The Royal Horse Artillery guns throw a shell of 12½ lbs. a distance of 3½ miles. There are 13 men to each gun, which is drawn by 6 horses, and there are spare horses in addition; nine men ride on horseback and four sit on the gun wagon. It is astonishing with what speed the Horse Artillery dash about with their guns, even when the ground is rough and hilly.

The Royal Field Artillery does not have to move as fast as the R.H.A.;

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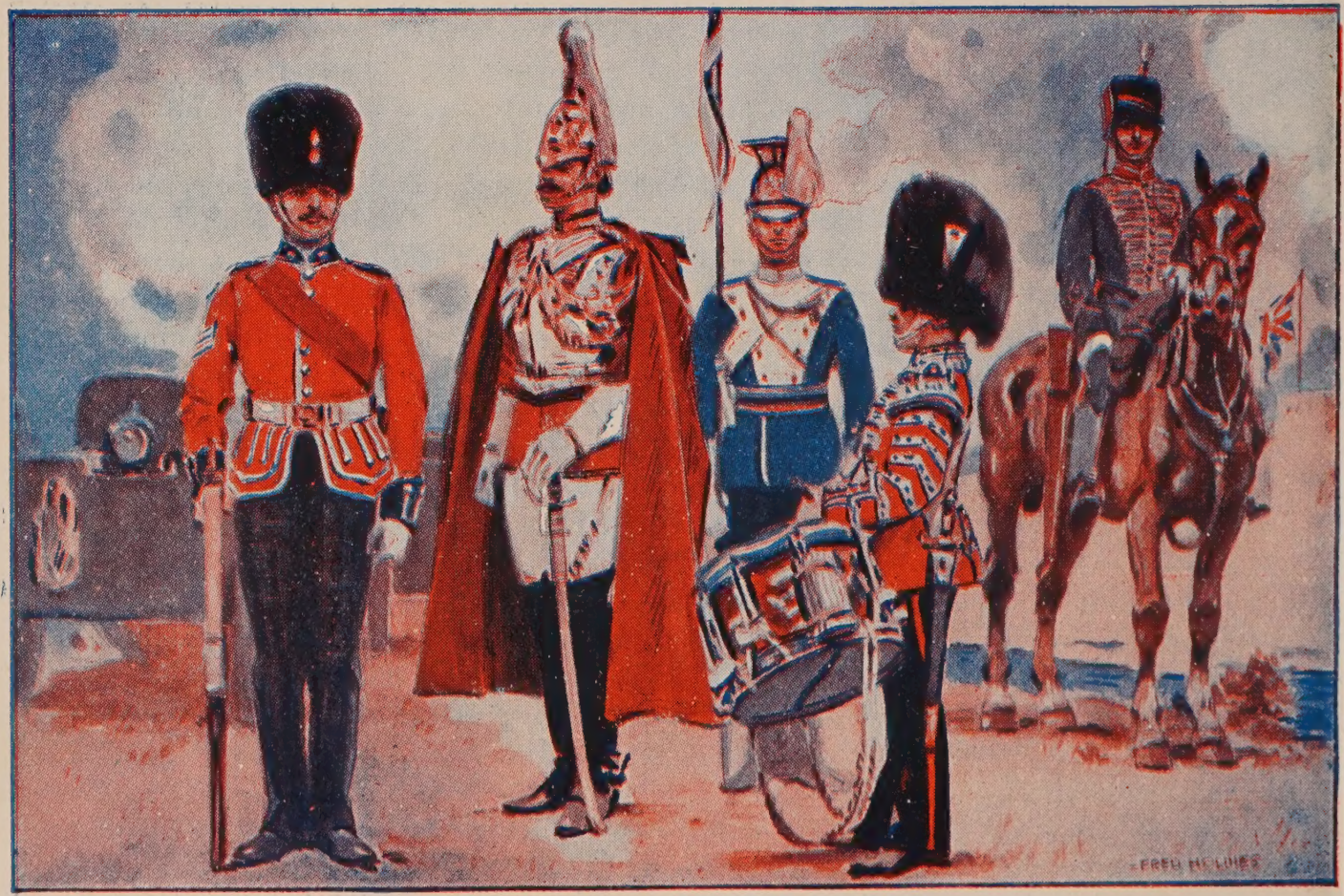
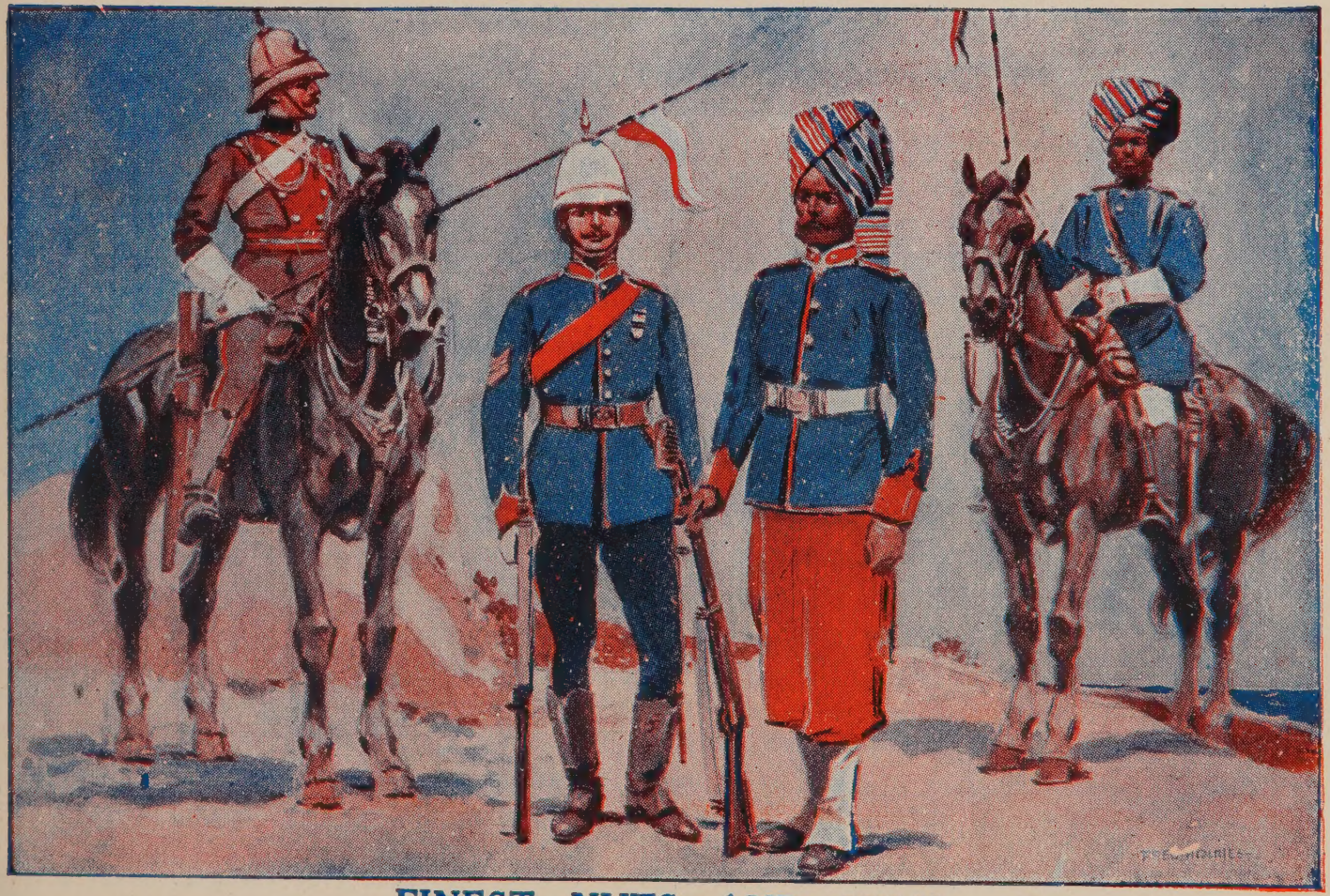


PERFECT MARGARINE

FRESHLY CHURNED



FINEST NUTS AND MILK

there are fewer horses, and more men ride on the wagon. Field guns fire shrapnel shells, each of which contains 375 bullets. When the shell drops and bursts, the bullets fly all around, wounding and killing any of the enemy within reach.

There are very many Infantry regiments. The best known are the Guards, the Fusiliers, and the Highlanders. In full dress the Guards wear great bearskin head-dresses. In what is called undress uniform they wear poked caps; the Grenadiers with a red band; the Coldstream Guards, white; the Scots Guards, plaid; and the Irish Guards, green.

Infantrymen are armed with rifle and bayonet. They dig trenches in which to take shelter while they fire their rifles. When they have made it hot for the enemy with their bullets, they charge with fixed bayonets. It has to be a very brave enemy who can face a British bayonet charge. All our Infantry regiments, whether English, Welsh, or Irish, have made themselves famous for their courage; but the Highlanders, such as the Black Watch and the Gordons, are perhaps the best fighters of all. Besides their rifles, both Infantry and Cavalry use machine guns that fire 250 rounds a minute, which means a perfect hail of bullets in which men cannot live.

The Territorials are divided into Yeomanry (Cavalry), Artillery, and Infantry, exactly the same as the Regulars. They are soldiers only in their spare time. But when they are wanted in war time, they leave their work in the office or factory and fight for their King and country at home or abroad. We call them our Citizen Soldiers, and we are very proud of them.

In India we have a large army of natives, and these dusky subjects of the King are fine soldiers. When Britain went to war with Germany the Indian troops were filled with pride at being called upon to help to drive the Germans out of France.

It was just the same in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. The sturdy sons of the Empire rallied to the help of the Old Country, and they were prepared to lay down their lives for her. When the great war broke out many men in Great Britain and Ireland were sorry that they had never been drilled, and did not know how to use a rifle. They enlisted in hundreds of thousands to be trained into good soldiers. But in some of our colonies every man has to be a soldier. In Australia, boys commence their training when they are at school. The men in the colonies make fine soldiers, because most of them live healthy out-door lives; and generally they are good horsemen and capital shots.

Just a few words about the Union Jack, the "Red, White and Blue." It is made up of three flags, namely, the Cross of St. George for England, the Cross of St. Andrew for Scotland, and the Cross of St. Patrick for Ireland. It is the most glorious flag that has ever waved in all the world.

King George is at the head of the Army. Lord Kitchener is a famous General who made a great name for himself in the Sudan and South Africa. When we went to war with Germany he got together a great new army to fight against the enemy. Sir John French is our greatest cavalry leader, and took command of the British Army on the Continent.

H.M. KING GEORGE V. (Britain)
LORD KITCHENER.
(War Minister)
GENERAL FRENCH (Britain)